

# CLAIM AMENDMENTS

## Claim Amendment Summary

### **Claims pending**

- Before this Response: Claims 1, 3-8, 10-16, and 18-23.
- After this Response: Claims 1, 3-8, 10-16, and 18-23.

**Canceled or Withdrawn claims:** none.

**Amended claims:** 16.

**New claims:** none.

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## Claims:

1. **(PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)** A computer-readable medium having computer-executable modules comprising:
  - a file locator configured to locate an executable image on a computer media;
  - a file-format recognizer configured to recognize the file format of the executable image from amongst a database of multiple file format definitions, wherein the database is extensible so that additional file format definitions may be added to the database of multiple file format definitions;
  - a memory-mapper configured to open the executable image from the computer media and read it into a computer memory;
  - an importer configured to find a list of executable image names to load;

1 an exporter configured to build a representation of program modules that an  
2 executable image exports;

3 a binder configured to link multiple executable images together, such  
4 images being those of the list of executable image names.

5  
6 **2. (CANCELED)**

7  
8 **3. (ORIGINAL)** A medium as recited in claim 1, wherein the  
9 importer is further configured to direct the loading of multiple executable images  
10 of the list of executable image names to load

11  
12 **4. (ORIGINAL)** A medium as recited in claim 1, wherein the  
13 file-format recognizer is further configured to select one or more of a group of  
14 available pluggable sub-loaders is capable of loading the recognized file format of  
15 the executable image.

16  
17 **5. (ORIGINAL)** A loader comprising a computer-readable  
18 medium as recited in claim 1.  
19

1           6.     **(ORIGINAL)**     An operating system comprising a computer-  
2 readable medium as recited in claim 1.

3  
4           7.     **(ORIGINAL)**     A computer comprising a computer-readable  
5 medium as recited in claim 1.

6  
7           8.     **(PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)**     A     computer-readable  
8 medium having computer-executable modules comprising:

9           a searcher configured to search a computer media for an executable image  
10 for loading;

11           a format recognizer configured to the format of the executable image;

12           a memory-mapper configured to load and map the executable image into  
13 memory based upon the format of the executable image;

14           a sub-loader configured to examine a data structure of the executable image  
15 to determine whether to load additional images;

16           a database of multiple executable-image formats which is the basis for  
17 which the recognizer recognizes the format of executable image and for which the  
18 memory-mapper varies how it loads and maps the executable image into memory,  
19 wherein the database is extensible so that additional executable-image formats  
20 may be recognized by the recognizer and loaded and mapped by the memory-  
21 mapper.

22  
23           9.     **(CANCELED)**

1           **10. (ORIGINAL)**     A medium as recited in claim 8, wherein one or  
2 more modules the medium are configured to be replaced with a replacement  
3 module without recompilation of one or more modules.

4  
5           **11. (ORIGINAL)**     A medium as recited in claim 8, wherein the  
6 memory-mapper is further configured to convert the executable image before  
7 mapping it into the memory.

8  
9           **12. (ORIGINAL)**     A medium as recited in claim 8, wherein the  
10 memory-mapper is further configured to decrypt the executable image before  
11 mapping it into the memory.

12  
13           **13. (ORIGINAL)**     A loader comprising a computer-readable  
14 medium as recited in claim 8.

15  
16           **14. (ORIGINAL)**     An operating system comprising a computer-  
17 readable medium as recited in claim 8.

18  
19           **15. (ORIGINAL)**     A computer comprising a computer-readable  
20 medium as recited in claim 8.

1  
2       **16. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)** A method for facilitating loading  
3 to one or more executable images ~~a varying~~ of varying formats, the method  
4 comprising:

5       locating an executable image on a computer media;

6       investigating information related to the executable image, thereby  
7 identifying the format of the executable image, wherein during the investigating,  
8 an extensible database of executable-image formats is accessed;

9       based upon the identified format of the image, initiating a loader associated  
10 with that identified format;

11       with that loader, loading the executable image into a computer memory.

12  
13       **17. (CANCELED)**

14  
15       **18. (ORIGINAL)** A method as recited in claim 16, wherein  
16 headers of the image contains the information related to the executable image for  
17 the investigating.

18  
19       **19. (ORIGINAL)** A computer-readable medium having computer-  
20 executable instructions that, when executed by a computer, performs the method  
21 as recited in claim 16.

1           **20. (ORIGINAL)**    A computer comprising one or more computer-  
2 readable media having computer-executable instructions that, when executed by  
3 the computer, perform the method as recited in claim 16.

4  
5           **21. (ORIGINAL)**    A computer-readable medium having  
6 modularized computer-executable modularized sets of instructions that, when  
7 executed by the computer, load one or more executable images into a computer  
8 memory, such an image having one or more formats defined by an extensible  
9 database of executable-image formats.

10  
11           **22. (ORIGINAL)**    A medium as recited in claim 21, wherein the  
12 modularized sets of instructions are isolated with clean interfaces.

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14           **23. (ORIGINAL)**    An operating system comprising a medium as  
15 recited in claim 21.

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